

Remarks

Drawings

Enclosed herewith is a letter to the Draftsperson submitting corrected drawings in which the reference characters and lead curves are not difficult to read.

Claims

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Steiner.

Valid rejection under 35 USC 102 requires that each feature of a rejected claim be disclosed in a single reference. "For anticipation under 35 USC 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present." MPEP 706.02(a)

Steiner does not disclose each feature of the rejected claims.

In order to overcome the prior art rejection the claims are amended in the set of claims submitted herewith.

The heater disclosed by Steiner has a sieve element 6 installed in the interior 3 of a connecting pipe 1, which adjoins a combustion chamber 2. The sieve element 6 projects out toward the combustion chamber 2 and is formed in the embodiments of Figs. 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 such that it protrudes beyond a mouth opening of the connecting pipe 1 and projects into the combustion chamber 2 (see Steiner, col. 5, lines 49-55).

Therefore, the sieve element 6 of Steiner cannot be regarded as "a lining member to be provided on the inner wall of the combustion chamber".

According to Steiner, the flow direction of the fuel which is sucked up by the sieve element 6 (at the region 11 provided with the projection 12) and transported in the direction of the combustion chamber 2 (see Steiner, col. 4, lines 43-52) is determined by

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the sieve element's projection toward the combustion chamber 2. The sieve element 6 does not and need not have "*at least one region of increased flow resistance influencing a flow direction of a fuel*".

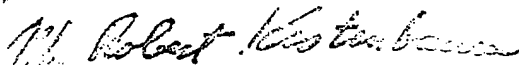
The spacing or gap 8 formed between the connecting pipe inner wall 7 and the sieve element 6 is annular, i.e. circumferentially surrounding the sieve element 6. Therefore, the spacing 8, although it may influence the fuel flow rate/volume, does not influence the fuel flow direction from region 11 towards combustion chamber 2.

Claim 8 is amended to corrected a type, namely the omission of "a" before "vehicle heating device" in line 1.

A two-month extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action is hereby requested. PTO-2038 is enclosed authorizing credit card payment in the amount of \$450 is enclosed for the prescribed Large Entity two-month extension fee.

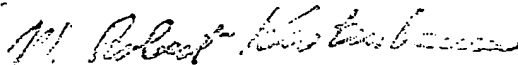
Wherefore further consideration and allowance of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify this correspondence is being submitted to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 by facsimile transmission on April 25, 2005, fax number (703) 872-9306.



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